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SARGENT'S  
NOTES ON  
IOWA  
WITH A MAP

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# NOTES ON IOWA:

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NEW AND BEAUTIFULLY ENGRAVED

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SHOWING THE STATE, COUNTY, AND TOWNSHIP LINES,  
PUBLIC ROADS, CONTEMPLATED RAILROADS, AND  
INCLUDING THE MOST RECENT SETTLEMENTS  
AND IMPROVEMENTS :

BY

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U. S. DEPUTY SURVEYOR.

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## PREFACE.

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THE following notes, which have been thrown together to accompany and illustrate the Map, contain as much useful information as could well be condensed within the limits of a pocket volume, without converting it into a mere chapter of statistics. Most of the descriptions of the various Counties, are given from personal observation; the writer, during a long residence in Iowa, having had occasion, in his capacity as a Government Surveyor, to traverse nearly every portion of the State. The article on the "Mississippi Valley and Atlantic Rail Road," though not perhaps properly included under the title of the volume, was added as likely to interest all who are concerned in the prosperity of the West. Particular attention is requested to this and the various other projected lines of railroad mentioned in the following pages. The assistance of Eastern capitalists is all that is wanted to secure the success of these important enterprises. In less than a year from this time, the Magnetic Telegraph will

be extended from St. Louis to Galena ; and the valley of the Upper Mississippi which, a short time ago, seemed almost out of the world, will be in daily communication with the Atlantic cities.

The Map of Iowa, accompanying this volume, is the only complete and accurate one that has yet appeared.

G. B. S.

DAVENPORT, IOWA, February 1st, 1848.



# NOTES ON IOWA.

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## **Acquisition from the Indians.**

UNTIL as late as the year 1832, the whole territory north of the State of Missouri was in undisputed possession of the Indians. By a treaty made in 1830, the Sacs and Foxes, who were then one of the principal tribes, had ceded to the United States the last of their lands east of the Mississippi River. Their unwillingness to leave the ceded territory in compliance with the treaty, led to the "Black Hawk War," which resulted, after several fierce skirmishes, in the total defeat of the Indians at the battle of the Bad-Axe, on the 2nd of August, 1832. In the September following, partly as an indemnity for the expenses of the war, and partly to secure the future safety and tranquility of the invaded frontier, a strip of country on the west of the Mississippi, extending nearly 300 miles north from Missouri, and about 50 miles in width, (now commonly called "the Black Hawk purchase,") was ceded to the United States; and in June, 1833, the settlement of Iowa by the white man was commenced.

Further purchases were made successively in the years 1836 and 1837; and in 1842, by a treaty concluded by

Governor Chambers, an immense tract of land, containing some fifteen million acres, was purchased of the Sacs and Foxes for the sum of one million dollars. This tract, known as the "New Purchase," now contains some of the finest Counties in the State, though a large part of it was occupied by the Indians until October in 1845.

The Pottawattamies, who inhabited the south-western corner of the State, and the Winnebagoes, who occupied the "Neutral Ground," a strip of country on the northern border, have been peaceably removed within the last two years ; and the Indian title has thus become extinct in the whole country lying within the established limits of Iowa.

#### **Formation of the Territorial & State Governments.**

The settlement commenced in the summer of 1833, continued with great rapidity. In 1836, a territorial government was established over Wisconsin, which then included the whole of the "Black Hawk Purchase," and extended west to the Missouri river. By Act of Congress, passed June 12th, 1838, it was enacted, that, from and after the 3rd day of July following, all that part of the territory of Wisconsin lying west of the Mississippi, should be and constitute a separate territorial government by the name of Iowa. The white population numbered at that time 22,000. In 1844, the population having increased to upwards of 82,500 souls, a Convention of Delegates assembled at Iowa City, formed a Constitution and State Government, and applied for admission of Iowa into the Union. An Act was accordingly passed by Congress on the 3rd of March, 1845, declaring the State boundaries, and condi-

tionally granting admission ; but the proposed Constitution having been rejected by the people, the admission did not take effect. So much of the Act as related to the boundaries was repealed, and the present boundaries were established on the 4th of August, 1846 ; and a second Convention assembled at Iowa City in May of that year, having adopted the present State Constitution, and renewed the former application, it was enacted by Congress on the 28th of December, 1846 :—" That the State of Iowa shall be—and is hereby declared to be—one of the United States of America, and is admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever."

Thus, in the short space of fourteen years, a free and civilized State was formed on the soil which for ages before had been the hunting-ground and battle-ground of contending tribes. The Indians have now wholly disappeared, and the hardy and enterprising population which has taken their place, numbers nearly 120,000 souls. Though collected from many parts of the world, and from all classes and grades of society, they are, for the most part, an industrious, honest, and order-loving people ; and among them may be found many men of superior education and intelligence. During the last year, numerous Germans, of an excellent class, have settled in various parts of the State : and the immigration is still going on. If half the immense hordes of foreigners who are daily landing on our shores were to follow this example, instead of congregating, as most of them do, in crowded cities, many of the evils of unrestricted immigration, which

are beginning to be so seriously felt, might be avoided. There is room enough for all on the broad and fertile prairies of the "Great West."

Perhaps no part of this vast region combines in itself more of the elements of prosperity than that under consideration. Situated nearly midway between the two great oceans—bounded on two sides by the giant rivers of the continent—and watered by innumerable smaller streams; possessing a fertile soil, inexhaustible mineral resources, a healthful climate, a free constitution, and a hardy and industrious population; uncursed by slavery, and untrammelled by debt; the State of Iowa has commenced its career with prospects of far more than ordinary brilliancy. In extent of territory, it is one of the largest in the Union; and it may safely be prophesied, that it is destined, at no distant day, to rank among the first in point of wealth and political importance.

### **General Description of the Country.**

The general face of the country is that of a high rolling prairie, watered by numerous streams, and, on the river-courses, skirted with woodlands. An idea prevails at the East, that the prairies are uniformly level. This is by no means the case. Sometimes, indeed, they are spread out in boundless plains: but the high, or upland prairies, which are much the most beautiful, as well as the best adapted to cultivation—present a series of graceful undulations not unlike the swell of the sea, from which they derive the appellation "rolling." Their uniform characteristic, is, the absence of timber; hence, the word "prairie" is commonly used in the West to designate an open

or unwooded country. This absence of timber has been accounted for by the Indian practice of annually burning the prairies, as it is found that timber springs up rapidly when the fires are kept out. In their natural state, they are covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, interspersed with a variety of flowers, and, when in full bloom and verdure, are exceedingly beautiful.

“To look at a prairie up or down,” says Nicollet, “to ascend one of its undulations; to reach a small plateau (or, as the voyageurs call it, a *prairie planché*), moving from wave to wave over alternate swells and depressions; and, finally, to reach the vast interminable low prairie that extends itself in front,—be it for hours, days, or weeks, one never tires; pleasurable and exhilarating sensations are all the time felt; *ennui* is never experienced. The security one feels in knowing that there are no concealed dangers, so vast is the extent which the eye takes in; no difficulties of road; a far spreading verdure, relieved by a profusion of variously coloured flowers; the azure of the sky above, or the tempest that can be seen from its beginning to its end; the beautiful modifications of the changing clouds; the curious looming of objects between earth and sky, taxing the ingenuity every moment to rectify;—all, everything, is calculated to excite the perceptions, and keep alive the imagination.”

Although Iowa may be termed a “prairie” country, patches of timber are scattered about at convenient intervals, of sufficient extent for all agricultural purposes. Oak, of various kinds, cotton-wood (a species of poplar), locust, wild plum, and all the varieties of trees common to the same latitudes on this continent, are found on the uplands or along the river bottoms.

#### **Soil and Productions.**

The soil is of extreme richness and fertility, well adapted

to all the grains usually grown in the northern and middle latitudes. Tobacco, hemp, and flax, have been successfully cultivated. Wild rice, said to be quite equal to that of the Southern States, has recently been discovered. All the choice fruits may be raised in great perfection. Pure water may be obtained on any part of the prairies, at a distance of twenty or thirty feet from the surface.

Game of all kinds abounds on the woodlands and in the prairies, and the lakes and rivers are filled with fish and fowl. All who are fond of hunting will be well repaid by a trip to Iowa in the shooting season. A tolerable sportsman could easily obtain a subsistence with his gun alone.

#### **Minerals.**

Lead, zinc, iron, and coal, are the principal minerals. Copper and tin have also been discovered. The lead mines are the only ones which have as yet been worked to any extent.

A more particular account of the mineral products of Iowa will be found in another part of this volume.

#### **Climate.**

The climate of Iowa does not differ materially from that of the Eastern States in the same latitude. The winters are perhaps somewhat colder, though there is not a great deal of snow. During the summer a breeze almost always sweeps over the prairies, refreshing and invigorating without producing the evil effects of the cold easterly winds of the sea-board. Very warm weather seldom continues beyond the first of August. The dews are very heavy, and the nights are always cold and damp. The only diseases incident to the climate,

are those experienced in all new countries, which may, in a great measure, be avoided by proper care. Much depends upon the choice of locality. Low, wet situations, are always unhealthy, but on the high rolling prairies the air is pure and salubrious. Notwithstanding the greater exposure to which settlers are liable, in the change of diet and water, and the want of comforts and careful attendance, it is believed that the average mortality is not greater than in the Eastern States. Bilious disorders are more prevalent, but pulmonary diseases are almost entirely unknown; and changes favourable to continued health are daily produced by the settlement and cultivation of the country.

### Statistics.

Iowa and Wisconsin form one surveying District, having the office of the Surveyor General at Dubuque.

The State is divided into three Land Districts. The line between townships 83 and 84, extending from the Mississippi to the Missouri river, forms the boundary of the Northern District, of which the Land Office is at Dubuque. The line between townships 75 and 76 marks the limit of the middle or Iowa City Land District. The remainder of the State constitutes the Southern District, having the Land Office at Fairfield.

Iowa forms one Judicial District of the United States, called the "District of Iowa." A District Court, consisting of one Judge, is held annually at the seat of Government of the State.

The Territorial seat of Government was located, in 1839, at Iowa City, upon the Iowa River, by Commis-

sioners, appointed by the Legislature for that purpose, and a large and beautiful edifice has been erected for the transaction of public business. It is built entirely of stone, an excellent quality of which is found in this vicinity; and being on a prominent point of land overlooking the river, presents a very commanding appearance.

During the session of the Legislature of 1846, a bill was passed, appointing Commissioners to locate anew the permanent seat of Government of the State. The Commissioners appointed in accordance with this Act, made a location in Township No. 78, North Range 20, West, giving it the name of Monroe City. This point has no merit except its being near the centre of the State. Much dissatisfaction is expressed with the selection, and the probability is, that the seat of Government will remain at Iowa City for many years.

#### DESCRIPTION OF COUNTIES AND PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

##### Lee.

This is the southernmost County in the State, being situated in the point of land formed by the junction of the Des Moines and Mississippi Rivers. It is well watered, and the general quality of the soil is as good as that of any in Iowa.

*Keokuck*, the most thriving town, is situated on the Mississippi, at the foot of the Lower, or Des Moines Rapids. Its communication with St. Louis is nearly uninterrupted, and shipments of the produce of the country can be made from this point at less expense than from any other in the State. This circumstance, in connexion with the large extent of fertile back country, of which



Keokuck is the depot, must eventually make it a place of great importance. Being in the "Half Breed Tract," the title to which has been for a long time in dispute, its growth has hitherto been somewhat retarded; but the difficulties are now considered settled, and the town is improving with unparalleled rapidity.

There is a fine opportunity here for creating an available water power. By excavating a canal of some four or five miles in length, sufficient water might be diverted to drive an immense amount of machinery.

A railroad is in contemplation from this thriving town via Fairfield, Oskaloosa, Pella, and Monroe City, to Fort Des Moines. The proposed route is on or near the dividing ridge, between the waters of the Des Moines and Skunk Rivers, not crossing a single stream of importance, and requiring very little grading.

It is proposed, also, to construct a railroad between Keokuck and Dubuque, to pass through Montrose, West Point, Mount Pleasant, Washington, Iowa City, and Marion. A bill has passed the legislature asking Congress for a grant of land for this purpose.

*Fort Madison*, the seat of justice for Lee county, handsomely situated on the Mississippi river, about twelve miles above the head of the Des Moines Rapids, is quite an important town, having from 1,200 to 1,500 inhabitants. It contains the State Penitentiary, which is a substantial edifice, built of limestone rock; supports a weekly newspaper, three hotels, and one of the best ferries that cross the Upper Mississippi.

Population of Lee county, in 1844, 9,830 ; in 1847, 13,231.

### **Des Moines.**

Des Moines was the earliest settled, with the exception of Dubuque, and is, at this time, the most populous county in the State. The seat of justice, and principal town, is *Burlington*, which was formerly the territorial seat of government, and is noteworthy also as being the spot where the first settlers of Iowa erected their log cabins. The first legislature convened in Iowa, met here, in the fall of 1837. It is well situated on the Mississippi, and is a place of much trade ; containing a large number of stores, which supply a large and well-populated back country with goods.

Population of this county, in 1844, 9,109 ; in 1847, 10,071.

### **Louisa**

Is watered by the Iowa river, and its tributaries, all of which are bordered with excellent timber.

*Wapello*, the seat of justice, is a flourishing town, beautifully situated on the west bank of the Iowa river, about ten miles from its mouth, on the site of "Wapello's old Indian village." It takes its name from a celebrated Fox Chief, who resided there with his band until the summer of 1836. Other thriving villages in this county, are *Toolsboro* ; *Columbus City* ; *Harrison*, and *Florence*.

Population, in 1844, 3,238 ; in 1847, 3,648.

### **Muscatine.**

This county is situated in one of the great bends of the Mississippi, and in point of location has many advantages.

*Bloomington*, the seat of justice, is situated on the Mississippi; has an excellent landing for steamboats, and is the only town of importance for fifty miles above Burlington. Its peculiar situation in the bend of the river, gives it the advantages of both a river and inland town. It contains about 1,800 inhabitants, and supports a weekly newspaper. Being the shipping point for a large portion of the back country, a very extensive business is done here in produce.

Population of Muscatine county, in 1844, 2,882; in 1847, 3,010.

#### **Scott.**

This is a rich and well watered county, the Wabshipicon river bounding it on the north, and the Mississippi flowing along the whole eastern and southern borders, a distance of about 40 miles. It is the finest and most healthful of the river counties. The lands bordering on the Mississippi are susceptible of cultivation almost to the water's edge, the bluffs rising gradually, and forming the most desirable locations for farming purposes that can be conceived. The beauty of the scenery, the quality of the soil, and the apparent advantages of the situation, induced an early settlement along the banks of the river, where the farms are now numerous and highly improved. In the interior, the land, though mostly prairie, is high, gently rolling, and well adapted to cultivation; and owing to the facilities for procuring all necessary timber from the Mississippi, is rapidly becoming dotted with farms.

It was in this county that Black Hawk built his village, when the last of the Sacs and Foxes were driven from

their homes on Rock River ; and from here his warriors started to commence the war of 1832. The treaty, at the close of that war, by which the first land in Iowa was acquired from the Indians, was concluded at Fort Armstrong by General Scott ; and in honour of that celebrated officer, not so much on account of his military achievements as for his agency in effecting this favourable treaty, Scott county received its name. It is one of the smallest counties in the State, not containing over twelve townships of land.

*Davenport*, the seat of justice, is situated at the foot of a bluff on the bank of the Mississippi. The scenery in its vicinity is exceedingly picturesque, and long before the country was settled, had been noticed with admiration by passing travellers. Its appearance at that time is thus described in a work published several years ago :

“ At the foot of the Upper Rapids is one of the most picturesque scenes that we recollect to have beheld. On the western side, a series of slopes are seen rising one above another for a considerable distance, until the back ground is terminated by a chain of beautifully rounded hills, over the whole of which trees are thinly scattered. On the other side of the river is a broad flat plain of rich alluvion, several miles in length, and more than a mile in breadth, and terminated by a range of wooded hills. On this prairie is a small village of the Sac and Fox Indians, composed of rude lodges, scattered carelessly about. In the front of the landscape, and presenting its most prominent feature, is Rock Island, the western shore of which is washed by the main current of the Mississippi,

while the eastern side is separated from the main land by a narrow channel, which is fordable at low water. The southern point of the island is elevated about forty feet above the ordinary level of the river, and is supported by a perpendicular parapet of rock. Here stands Fort Armstrong, a strong and very neat work, garrisoned by two companies of United States troops ; and here will be one of the most desirable sites for a town on the Upper Mississippi. Rock River, which enters the Mississippi a few miles below the island, is a rapid stream, which may be easily rendered navigable, and which affords abundant water power for the propulsion of any kind of machinery. The whole of this region is fruitful, healthful, and agreeable to the eye."

It is interesting to mark the changes that have taken place since the above description was written. On the "western side," with the "beautifully rounded hills in the back ground," now stands Davenport. On the other side, which was then occupied by the Sac and Fox village, is now the flourishing town of Rock Island, in Illinois. Fort Armstrong is abandoned and in ruins. All along the banks of the river are seen the marks of civilization and improvement. But, though the scenery has lost some of its wildness, it retains its original characteristics, and has gained many pleasing features. The towns of Rock Island and Davenport, the old Fort with its deserted block houses, the Mississippi, winding gracefully above and below, Rock River branching off through the woods, the forest-covered islands, the high wooded bluffs, and the

rich, green prairies of Illinois, form a picture, which, for beauty, variety, and extent, can hardly be surpassed.

The healthfulness and beauty of the situation, together with the facilities for hunting and fishing in its neighbourhood, have made this place the fashionable resort during the summer months, of large numbers of people, from St. Louis and other Southern cities. It has hitherto been more noted on this account than as a place of trade ; but the business of the town is now rapidly on the increase. There are several flourishing stores ; and two large steam flouring mills have been erected during the past year, one of which is already in operation. Most of the houses are substantially built of brick. The hotel and courthouse are large and handsome buildings. A college, under the patronage of the Presbyterian denomination, is now in process of erection on the bluff, overlooking the town. Davenport is the eastern terminus of the contemplated railroad from the Mississippi to the Missouri River. It is 350 miles above St. Louis, and 500 below the Falls of St. Anthony. It contains about 1,000 inhabitants.

*Le Claire* is the name of a new town which has lately sprung into existence at the head of the Rapids, about fifteen miles above Davenport. It is situated in a thickly settled part of the county, and bids fair to become a place of considerable importance.

Population of  $\frac{1}{2}$  Scott county, in 1844, 2,750 ; in 1847, 3,652.

### Clinton

Is a rich and well watered county of land. In some parts there is a scarcity of timber, which has prevented

very extensive settlements being made. There is, however, a heavy body of timber on the Wabsipinecon River, and many excellent farms have been made in its vicinity. The lands in this county, bordering on the Mississippi, are generally quite broken.

*De Witt*, the seat of justice, is a thriving little village, beautifully situated on a high rolling prairie, about three miles from the Wabsipinecon River.

Population, in 1844, 1,200 ; in 1847, 1,570.

#### **Jackson.**

Much of the land in this county is broken and uneven, and its general appearance indicates a mineral country. Specimens of iron, copper, lead, zinc, and tin, have been found north of the Makoqueta River. Mr. Owen, in his geological report, pronounces the iron ore of this district of excellent quality and unlimited abundance. The Makoqueta runs through the entire length of the county from east to west, and furnishes abundant water power both on the main stream and its tributaries. This is a good agricultural region, and contains many fine farms.

*Bellevue* and *Charleston*, on the Mississippi River, are flourishing villages. *Andrew*, the seat of justice, is quite a promising town, situated near the geographical centre.

Population, in 1844, 2,833 ; in 1847, 4,639.

#### **Dubuque.**

This county, which embraces the principal part of the mineral region, was the earliest settled in the State ; a party of French Canadians having established themselves at the site of the present town of Dubuque, about the year 1786, for the purpose of trading with the Indians. The first discovery of lead ore in the West is said to have been

made in that vicinity by the wife of an Indian Chief. This mineral has now become the principal article of export, and is a source of great profit, the mines yielding it in immense quantities. The settlers here are from nearly every part of the world, most of whom have been drawn hither by the expectation of making speedy fortunes in the mines ; but where the hopes of one are realized, ninety-nine are disappointed. Stories are told of men who have gone to work in the morning poor, and have found themselves possessed of wealth at night. There have undoubtedly been such instances ; but the stories of men who have spent their all in the search of hidden treasures, and have found only bitter disappointment, though less often heard, are far more numerous.

This is a well timbered county, but much of the land is too broken for agricultural purposes. There are valuable water powers on the Makoqueta River, some of which are extensively improved.

*Dubuque*, the seat of justice, besides being the great mineral depot of Iowa, is a place of much trade, and supplies a very extensive country with goods. It contains about 3,000 inhabitants, several wholesale stores, and one of the largest hotels in the West. The United States Land Office for the Northern District of Iowa, and the Office of the Surveyor General of Iowa and Wisconsin, are also at this place.

Population, in 1844, 4,059.

#### **Clayton.**

The land in this county is of an excellent quality, and the timber very superior and in great abundance. There is sufficient on the Volga River to support a very large



number of extensive farms. The county is settling fast with an enterprising population.

*Prairie la Porte* is the seat of justice. It is handsomely situated on the Mississippi, a few miles above the mouth of Turkey River. *Winchester* is the principal town, and a flourishing little village.

Population, in 1847, 2,176.

#### **Allamakee and Winneshiek.**

These two new counties contain much excellent land, and are well watered and timbered.

#### **Fayette and Buchanan.**

These counties, though organized only two years, have already numerous settlements. They are well watered and timbered, and the land is of excellent quality. The spirit of speculation which has run so high in other parts of the State on their first settlement, does not seem to have reached here, and immigrants can here find choice lands at Government prices.

*Trenton*, the seat of justice for Buchanan county, is a thriving town, and is improving fast.

#### **Delaware.**

The land in this county is generally quite broken, and has the appearance of a mineral region. There is, however, much good farming land, and many excellent farms are already under cultivation. Timber and water are abundant and of the best quality.

*Delhi* is the most important town.

Population, in 1847, 1,111.

#### **Jones.**

The Makoqueta and Wabsipinecon both run through this county, which will rank among the first in Iowa in

point of manufacturing privileges, having water power in great abundance. It is also a good farming country, with a good soil, plenty of timber, and a healthful climate.

*Edinburgh*, the county seat, is a thriving town, and promises to be a place of some importance.

Population, in 1844, 1,112 ; in 1847, 1,779.

#### **Linn.**

This county is well timbered, and contains as good land and as great agricultural advantages as any in the State. It is thickly settled, and the farms will, in general, compare favourably with those of an older country. It is well watered by the Red Cedar and its tributaries, which afford abundance of water power, and upon which many good mills are already erected.

*Marion*, the seat of justice, situated near the centre, is quite a flourishing village.

Population, in 1844, 2,643 ; in 1847, 3,954.

#### **Cedar.**

This was one of the earliest settled counties. It is well watered, and has some fine mill privileges, and several mills already in successful operation. The Wabipinecon and Red Cedar Rivers, pass through it. *Tipton*, the seat of justice, situated near the centre, on a beautiful prairie, is a thriving town, settled mostly by Eastern people. *Rochester*, on the bank of the Cedar, is a flourishing town, containing an enterprising population.

Population, in 1844, 2,643 ; in 1847, 2,809.

#### **Johnson.**

This is an excellent county of land. The general face of the country is rolling. There is some scarcity of timber, except in the immediate vicinity of the water courses.

*Iowa City*, the capitol of the State, and the seat of justice of this county, is situated near its centre, on the left bank of Iowa River. The settlement and growth of this town have been remarkably rapid. In May, 1839, when the seat of government was located, it was entirely in a state of nature. In less than one year afterwards it contained from five to seven hundred inhabitants, and several hotels and shops. It has since increased with equal rapidity, and now contains several churches, a college, academy, and excellent schools. Steamboats have frequently ascended the river to this point, and some have gone above in high stages of water. About a mile above the city, are an excellent water-power and extensive mills.

The passage of the bill to locate the seat of government anew, does not seem to have injured in the least, the prosperity of this city. No one appears to entertain a serious idea that the seat of government will be removed from it, at least, for the next fifty years. To be satisfied on this point, one has only to be acquainted with the two locations.

An U. S. Land Office is established at this place.

The capitol stands on a prominent eminence, overlooking the river and surrounding country. It is 120 feet long, and 62 wide, built of stone, in a substantial and workmanlike manner.

Population of this county in 1844, 2,940; in 1847, 3,389.

### **Washington.**

This county is high and rolling, well timbered and watered. Several of the small streams afford excellent

water powers, and mills are in active operation. Much damage has lately been done to the farms by a destructive fire, which swept over the prairies. The loss in grain, fences, buildings, &c., is estimated at not less than \$50,000.

*Washington*, the seat of justice, is situated on a beautiful prairie, and is a thriving village. There are some other flourishing towns.

Population, in 1847, 3,588.

### Henry

Is decidedly one of the best counties in Iowa. The prairie is gently rolling, and well adapted for cultivation. The timber is of an excellent quality and well situated. Skunk River affords good water powers, some of the best of which are already improved. This county was settled at an early day, by an excellent class of people ; and the fine orchards, farms, and houses, bear witness to their industry. *Mount Pleasant*, the county seat, is a delightful place, and is improving rapidly. It is beautifully situated on a high rolling prairie, and is as healthful a point as can be selected.

Population, in 1844, 6,017 ; in 1847, 6,759.

### Jefferson

Is well timbered, and well watered, and has abundant mill privileges. *Fairfield*, the seat of justice, is beautifully situated, near the centre of the county. The United States Land Office for the Southern District of Iowa, is at this place.

Population, in 1844, 5,694 ; in 1847, 8,463.

**Van Buren.**

This is one of the oldest and most populous counties in Iowa. It is well watered and timbered, and is an excellent farming region. The lands are well improved. *Keosauque*, the seat of justice, situated near the great bend of the Des Moines River, is a thriving town, containing many fine buildings. *Farmington*, also a place of much importance, is handsomely situated, and improving very rapidly.

Population, in 1847, 10,203.

**Jasper.**

Most of the land in this county is prairie ; timber being only found on the banks of Skunk River and its tributaries. The prairie is rolling and dry, and well adapted to cultivation. There are several good sandstone quarries. *Newton*, the county seat, is handsomely situated, and is an important town. *Monroe City*, the new seat of government, is in this county.

Population, in 1847, 560.

**Wapello.**

This county is watered by the Des Moines, and several smaller streams, on some of which are good mill sites. The surface is moderately undulating ; the soil is excellent, and there is an abundance of good timber. Heavy settlements are already made along the Des Moines River bottom, and some of the farms would compare favourably with those of the older counties.

*Ottumwa*, the seat of justice, is pleasantly situated on the Des Moines. It contains several good houses, stores, and mechanics' shops, and two hotels. The Appanoose

Rapids are at this place, and a large grist and saw mill are in extensive operation. *Agency City* is a flourishing and picturesque little village, about three miles from the Des Moines, surrounded by many fine farms. *Eddyville* is a thriving town on the west bank of the river, containing a saw mill, and some substantial brick buildings.

Population, in 1847, 5,560.

### **Mahaska**

Is one of the finest counties in the New Purchase. It is moderately undulating, with a good soil, chiefly prairie, but with a sufficiency of timber for fencing purposes. It is watered by the Des Moines, Skunk, and its tributaries, and several inferior streams, on some of which are several mills in operation. Good springs are scarce, but excellent water may be obtained at an average depth of thirty feet from the surface. *Oskaloosa*, the county seat, is situated near the geographical centre. Although it is only four years since its settlement was commenced, it now contains sixty or seventy good buildings, two hotels, a court house, and several stores. In its vicinity are some well cultivated farms.

Population, in 1847, 3,774.

### **Marion.**

This is a well timbered county ; numerous groves occurring at convenient distances for agricultural purposes. The soil is generally good. The face of the country is broken, and in places even hilly, though considerable tracts of level land intervene. It is watered by the Des Moines and its tributaries. A remarkable feature of this county is seen in the peculiar conformation of the banks of

the streams, which are generally so steep and abrupt that few points can be found that are suitable for fords. Bituminous coal, and large quantities of sulphur and iron ore, are found in almost all these banks. There are many excellent stone quarries, and in some places a kind of flat stone is found, which is admirably calculated for whetstones, on account of its softness and fine grit.

A large number of Hollanders, who have been compelled to leave their own country, by political and religious persecution, have recently commenced a settlement in the north-eastern part of Marion county, which they have given the name of *Pella*. They have purchased two townships, and the colony already numbers eight hundred. Nearly two hundred of them declared their intention of becoming citizens of the United States, at a late term of the county court. The president of this association of settlers, Mr. Schaulter, and several other of their leading men, are men of superior education and refinement. Mr. S. was a student at the Leyden University, at the time of the Belgian insurrection, and took an active part in that event. He has written several able works, and was the editor of a periodical, published at Utrecht, where he suffered imprisonment for the fearlessness with which he advocated the cause of popular freedom.

*Knoxville*, the seat of justice of Marion, pleasantly situated on a high prairie, near the geographical centre, is a thriving town.

Population, in 1847, 2,350.

### **Polk.**

This is a well timbered county, and is watered by the

Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers. The face of the country is rolling, and the soil generally good. A short distance above the juncture of the Raccoon and Des Moines, is the old fort, or *Fort Des Moines*, as it is called, which was evacuated by the United States dragoons, in March, 1846. Since that time, a town has sprung up, numbering within its limits some one hundred and fifty inhabitants. The surrounding country is thickly inhabited, and, though so lately settled, contains extensive improvements, and thriving farms. Having an abundance of timber, and almost any amount of water privileges, this county must become a point of great importance.

Population, in 1847, 1,792.

#### Warren

Borders on Marion, but is inferior as an agricultural district, on account of a preponderance of prairie. It is attached to Marion for judicial purposes. There are not, as yet, many settlements in this county.

#### Lucas.

This is one of the best counties for agricultural purposes; having an excellent soil, and a good distribution of prairie and timber lands. Springs are more numerous than in the adjoining counties, and there is an abundance of excellent coal. Lucas was formerly the favourite hunting ground of the Pottawottamies. It is attached to Marion for judicial purposes.

#### Poweshiek.

This county is mostly prairie, and contains very few settlers. The land is generally rolling, and the soil rich.



**Keokuck, Iowa, Benton, Black Hawk, and Tama,**  
Are but thinly settled. Timber is scarce in all of them. The soil is rich, and the lands are well watered.

#### **Appanoose and Kishkeekosh.**

These two counties are mostly prairie, and will not, on that account, be settled very fast. *Chaldear*, the county seat of Appanoose, contain two or three stores, and several dwelling houses.

**Marshall, Story, Boone, Dallas, Madison, Clark, Wayne, Decatur, Ringgold, Taylor, and Page,**

Contain as yet but few settlers. Timber is scarce in all of them.

#### **Mills.**

This county is on the Missouri River, and the southern part contains quite a heavy settlement. There is quite a body of good timber on the Nishnabottana and Missouri. The bottom on the Missouri is low and subject to inundation. At Huntsucker's Ferry, there is a store, and some mechanics' shops.

#### **Rivers of Iowa.**

##### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION.**

The principal rivers of this State are the Keosauque or Des Moines, the Checauque or River of Skunks, the Iowa, Red Cedar, Wabsipinecon, Makoqueta, Turkey, Upper Iowa, and Yellow. The Des Moines, Iowa, and Cedar, are navigable in good stages of water, for about a 100 miles up. The general characteristics of these rivers, are a swift current, lime-stone bottom, or white sand, and very pure transparent water, filled with various kinds of fish. All these rivers head in numerous small lakes in the Indian country, and are skirted with timber.

## Minerals of Iowa.

### LEAD ORE.

The lead region comprehends a strip of about eight townships of land, lying along the Mississippi, the greatest width of which strip is about twelve miles from east to west. It is watered by the Little Makoqueta, and the lower portion of Turkey River. The surface, in this tract, is broken and rugged, and there are some hills of considerable magnitude. Mr. Owen, in his geological report, made to Congress in 1840, says, in reference to the lead region of Wisconsin and Iowa: "a review of the resources and capabilities of this country induces me to say with confidence, that ten thousand miners could find profitable employment within its confines." From the same report is taken the following statement of the process of mining:

"When a miner sets out in search of lead ore, he usually begins by what is called 'prospecting;' that is, on those spots where surface or other indications lead him to expect a discovery of ore, he commences digging holes or sinking shafts, usually on the summit or the declivity of a hill. Should he fail in the first attempt to reach gravel mineral, or to come upon any signs of neighbourhood to a fissure, he soon abandons the spot, and begins to dig elsewhere. The ground in many portions of the lead districts is found riddled with such pits, called, in the language of the Wisconsin miner, 'prospect holes.' Should he reach encouraging symptoms, or actually strike upon a vein, or upon detached pieces of ore ranging downwards, he continues his labour, often with very great profit.

"When, after preliminary examination, he decides to sink a shaft, with the view of striking a crevice, he is compelled, until he reaches the rock, to wall up the shaft with logs. •

"These shafts, of irregular form, usually approaching a

cylinder, are generally from four to five feet across. Sometimes the rock is soft enough to be quarried with hammer, gad, and pickaxe ; at others, it is found necessary to blast it with gunpowder.

“The mode of descending, is by means of a rope of raw hide, and a common windlass, worked by one or two men.

“By the same simple contrivance, the ore is raised to the surface. Sometimes, but rarely, ladders are used to ascend and descend.

“When a miner is fortunate enough to discover a productive vein accessible from a hill-side, he forms a drift, and very conveniently conveys the ore out in wheelbarrows—of course, at a very trifling expense.

“The shafts are sunk in this lead region to the depth of fifty, one hundred, or one hundred and fifty feet. They are usually abandoned as soon as the mine is inundated with water, unless the miner, by drifting (that is, working horizontally) until the external surface of the hill is reached, can readily drain the mine. There is but a single instance in the district where a mine has been prosecuted after being flooded with water, which could not thus be got rid of—namely, at Hamilton’s diggings, near the Peccatonna, where the mine is readily drained by a small steam-engine. The water in this mine was struck at the depth of thirty feet, and the mine has been worked with profit thirty-five feet below that point.

“In the deeper diggings, the *damp* (carbonic acid gas) sometimes accumulates in such quantities towards the bottom, as to render it dangerous to work. This happens chiefly in the hot months of summer ; and at such seasons the miners are frequently compelled to discontinue their labours.

“The means of ventilation yet employed are very simple. A cloth funnel, its upper portion so placed as to receive the breeze and to deflect it into the shaft, is the only contrivance.

“The lead ore, which, with a few local exceptions, is

alone found or worked in this district, is the *galena*, or sulphuret of lead; the same species of ore from which nearly all the lead of commerce is derived."

#### ZINC ORE.

"This ore," says Mr. Owen, "found both in Iowa and Wisconsin, usually occurs in the fissures, along with the lead. It is chiefly the electric calamine—the carbonate of zinc of the mineralogist. Though a solid ore, it has an ochreous, earthly aspect, often resembling the cellular substance of the bone: hence it is familiarly known among the miners by the name of 'dry bones.'

"Notwithstanding its intrinsic value, which will before very long be duly appreciated, it is at present an object of especial aversion to the miner of Iowa and Wisconsin. It frequently happens that the lead ore in a fissure gradually diminishes, and eventually is entirely replaced by this zinc ore; or, as the disappointed workman, sometimes with a hearty curse, not very scientifically expresses it, 'the dry bone eats out the mineral.'

"At some of the diggings, large quantities of this carbonate of zinc can be procured. Thousands of tons are now lying in various locations on the surface, rejected as a worthless drug—indeed, as a nuisance. It is known to but a few of the miners as a zinc ore at all. An analysis of this ore proves it to be a true carbonate of zinc, containing forty-five per cent. to the pure metal.

"Sheet zinc is becoming an article of considerable demand in the market, for culinary purposes, and as a covering for valuable buildings, instead of lead. But the chief consumption of this metal is in making *brass*, well known to be a compound of copper and zinc.

"Large quantities, both of copper and zinc, are now imported from Europe into the United States, to supply the continually increasing demand for brass. It is not improbable that the district now under consideration might furnish, of both metals, a sufficient amount, at least,

for many years to come, to supply the entire United States with brass of home produce and manufacture.

“Of zinc, at least, there is assuredly a sufficient supply, not only for that purpose, but also for exportation. All the zinc now produced in Great Britain is trifling in quantity, and quite insufficient for the demand, so that a large quantity is imported, annually, into that island, chiefly from Germany and Belgium. The importation of zinc into England, in the year 1833, exceeded six millions and a half of pounds—a fact which may give us an idea of the importance of this metal as an article of commerce.

#### IRON ORE.

“The richness of the iron veins in this district cannot be correctly known until mines shall actually be opened; which has not yet been done in any part of it. But more encouraging or more numerous surface-indications of an abundant supply of this useful metal can hardly offer themselves to the notice of the geologist. In a country more thickly settled, and with skill and capital to spare, these would speedily cause and justify the employment of whole villages of workmen. Though I have seen no proof that iron exists in Iowa, in deposits as extensive as in Tennessee, yet the locations of iron ore are numerous, and the quality of the ore, in general, is as good.

“Near the Makoqueta, my sub-agents reported the discovery of large masses of iron ore, occurring over a very considerable district of country. The reports and specimens from that portion of the district induce me to believe that there iron ore can be found, on the surface alone, sufficient to supply several iron-furnaces for years to come.

“To incidental causes alone, and not to any natural deficiency of material, must be attributed the custom of importing annually from England, into this country, millions of dollars worth of iron for railroads and other purposes. Enormous as is the produce of Great Britain’s iron-furnaces (amounting, in 1833, to fifteen hundred millions of pounds), we might rival it in America. How little here

in the West, at least, we have hitherto improved our natural resources in this branch of commerce, is proved by the thousands of tons of rich iron ore which lie, unappropriated and useless, scattered over Iowa and Wisconsin."

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### Brief Sketch of the Botany of Iowa.

BY C. C. PARRY.

Among the many points of interest which must naturally attract the attention of the emigrant to a new country, none is calculated to excite a more general interest than its native vegetable productions. Especially is this true of the Western emigrant in our own country ; expecting to be engaged more or less in the cultivation of the soil, he looks forward with pleasure to an acquaintance with these new companions of his toil ; and when, as it may happen, the prairie scene, so long imagined, breaks on the real view, in all the gorgeousness of its summer dress, each particular form of floral beauty acquires an interest in his eyes, which invites him to a more intimate acquaintance. To give a general outline of some of the more prominent features of Western, and particularly Iowan botany, is the object of the present sketch.

It is a common observation, that the different species of plants in different countries, correspond more or less with the variations of soil, climate, &c. ; in other words, we may expect to find the same, or closely allied plants, under similar external conditions ; and a like diversity where the conditions differ. But it must also be observed, that there is a difference of plants in this respect. Some are *cosmopolite* in their nature, and are found under very

variable conditions ; others confine themselves within distinct limits, to which they attach themselves with a pertinacity at times defying even the careful hand of culture. It is this last class of what are properly termed *characteristic* plants that possess the most interest, as the index to a country ; and a brief notice of some of these is all that will be attempted in the present sketch.

The prairie constitutes a main feature of our Western country, and as such, *prairie* plants claim the first notice. Among these, one of the first that will be apt to engage the new observer, is the well known *rosin weed*, (*Silphium Laciniatum*,) a coarse plant, with a sun-flower aspect, and ferny leaf. This is known in some parts of the country by the name of *compass plant*, being supposed to indicate, by the direction of its leaves, the points of the compass. This, however, the slightest observation will show to be unfounded ; its leaves facing in every possible direction ; and if there be any uniformity, it is plainly in connection with the prevailing winds.

The several species of *Liatris*, or blazing star, with its long spike of purple flowers, will also receive attention.

Then there is the *rattle-snake weed*, (*Eryngium Aquaticum*,) with its sword-shaped leaves, beset with slender spines, and round head of thickly crowded unobscured flowers ; its reputed virtues as an antidote, are, no doubt, unfounded, as, in common with the rest of its class, it possesses simply stimulant properties.

There may be noticed, also, the characteristic *Pelalostemons*, with their dense cylindrical heads of violet, or white, flowers.



In the fall of the year, the *cone-flowers* (*Rudbeckia*) constitute a conspicuous feature in the prairie flora, and with the *wild sun-flowers*, (*Helianthus*), and *golden rods*, (*Solidago*), literally dazzle the eye with the brightness of their yellow autumn dress.

The *lead plant*, (*Amorpha Canescens*), is also common on dry ridges—though its abundance and extensive range sufficiently disprove the supposed fact of its indicating the existence of lead.

The *eye-bright*, (*Euphorbia Corrollata*), also deserves notice as a common prairie plant ; and continuing to put forth its flowers from June to September, constitutes in the interval, a striking feature in the prairie landscape. Like the rest of the genus, it has a milky juice, and is medicinal.

Our limits will not permit us to extend our notice of prairie plants.

Among shrubs deserving attention, may be noticed, the *wafer ash*, (*Ptelia Trifoliata*), so named from the appearance of its fruit ; interesting, also, as constituting an ingredient in the *kinnikinnick* smoked by the Indians.

The *red bud*, (*Cersis Canadensis*), is distinguished by the profusion of its early spring flowers, appearing before the leaves.

Among the several species of *thorn*, we may mention as particularly striking in the abundance and fragrance of its flowers, and beauty of foliage, the *Cratægus Lomentosa*.

Then there is the *wahu*, (*Euonymus*, *Atropus-pureus*), to be noted by the showiness of its scarlet fruit in winter.



The *coffee tree*, (*Gymnocladus Canadensis*,) is also occasionally met with, bearing large pods, the seeds of which are said to make an agreeable beverage, prepared like coffee, and somewhat resembling it.

Of native *fruits*, including the strawberry and blackberry, common to the East, we have the *Missouri gooseberry*, (*Ribes Missouriense*,) distinguished for its long and singular flowers, bearing, generally, an abundance of fruit, and of a pleasant flavour. The *crab apple*, too, (*Pyrus Coronaria*,) in the fragrance of its beautiful flowers, makes some amends for the acerbity of its fruit, which latter is still esteemed by the housewife in making preserves. The *wild plum*, also, (*Prunus Americana*,) acquires its perfection here. *Frost grapes* may be gathered in their season. *Hickory nuts* of an astonishing size are sometimes met with. The *black walnut* and *butter-nut* are most abundant in the interior.

Of plants otherwise interesting, to which our limits will barely allow us to allude, we must notice the *moccasin-flowers*, (*Cypripedium*,) of which there are three species.

There is also the *Phalangium Esculentum*, with its hyacinth-looking flowers, and edible bulbous root, an article of food among the Indians over a wide range of country.

But of all the flowers of this region of country, none will secure a more lasting admiration, than the *Dodecatheon Media*, properly named the "*Pride of the Prairie*." Its stalk rising from a tuft of leaves, spreads out at the summit into an umbel of drooping flowers, with delicate petals of pure white, tinged by reflec-

tion from the cone of deep purple stamens, blending elegance and variety into a pattern of floral beauty.

Nor will the *sensitive pea*, (*Cassia Chamærista*,) run any risk of being neglected by a passing notice ; it will, no doubt, receive at the hands of every observer a proper tribute to its beauty.

Other plants, equally worthy of an extended notice, some of them particularly interesting to the botanist, in a geographical point of view, we shall only indicate by name.

*Androsace, occidentalis*.—Davenport and Rock Island.

*Anemone Caroliniana*.—With the above.

*Batschia, longiflora*.

*Troximori Cuspidatum*.

*Henchesa Richardsonii*.

*Allionia Nyctaginea*.

*Silene Nivea*.

*Artemesia, Ludoviciana*.

*Baptisia, Lucophoa, and Leucantha*.

DAVENPORT, January, 1848.

### **The Public Lands.**

It is hardly necessary to state that a large proportion of the land in Iowa, including some of the finest lands in almost every county, is still a part of the public domain.

All the lands are surveyed by Government Surveyors, under the direction of the Surveyor General, before being offered for sale. The method of admeasuring and marking is as follows:—The land is divided into *Townships* of six miles square, and each Township is subdivided into thirty-six *sections* of one mile square. The

sections are again divided into *quarter*, *half-quarter*, and *quarter quarter* sections ; each section and quarter section being marked by blazing a tree, as the technical phrase is for marking it with an axe ; or if the corner to be marked is in the prairie, by driving a stake and throwing up a sod, marking at the same time on the tree or stake the number of the Township and section. All the dividing lines run according to the cardinal points, and cross each other at right angles. The Townships are numbered South and North, from a base line, and the North and South ranges are numbered on both sides of arbitrary meridians East and West. The sections in each Township are numbered, beginning at the North-east section for number one, running West and alternately East, terminating with number 36 in the South-east corner. Section number 16, in each Township, is appropriated to the support of public schools, and is transferred to the State for that purpose. A Township contains six square miles, or 23,040 acres ; a section, one square mile, or 640 acres ; a quarter section, 160 acres. The Map accompanying this volume shows the Township lines in Iowa, with the numbers and ranges.

After the land has been surveyed, it is offered at public sale to the highest bidder ; but is not allowed to be sold below the *minimum* price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. Such tracts as are not sold at that time may at any time afterwards be purchased at the *minimum* price at private sale. The smallest quantity that can be entered is forty acres, or a *quarter quarter* section, and the price must be paid in cash at the time of entry.

### Information for Immigrants.

By the Constitution of Iowa, resident foreigners enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and descent of property, as native born citizens. The lands in that State are thus freely thrown open to immigrants from all countries. For the trifling sum of \$1 25 per acre, the settler obtains the absolute ownership of land, which is, perhaps, unsurpassed for agricultural purposes by any in the world. The cost of breaking the prairie in the older parts of Iowa is from \$1 50 to \$2 per acre. Rails may be obtained at from \$1 to \$2 per hundred, according to the distance from which they are brought. The cost of a cabin may be set down at from \$50 to \$150, depending, of course, upon the size and manner of building. Log cabins are most in use, but more substantial and more comfortable dwellings can be made, at no great expense, of brick, which can be procured at from \$4 to \$4 50 per thousand. Horses are worth from \$40 to \$60, Cows \$10 to \$12. Sufficient pasturage and hay may, in most places, be procured from the public lands. In consequence of the greater richness of the soil and its freedom from stumps and stones, the land requires much less labor than in the Eastern States, and the farmer's life is a much less toilsome one.

It will be seen from the above brief statement, with how small means the settler may create a home and ensure to himself at least a comfortable subsistence. It is not merely to farmers that the field is opened—mechanics of all kinds are greatly needed ; common day labourers are sure to find employment ; and, indeed, it may be safe-

ly said that no person of ordinary intelligence and industry, however poor he may be, need hesitate to seek his fortune in the West. How vastly thousands might better their condition by so doing, who are now dragging out a miserable existence in the crowded and unwholesome lanes of our Atlantic cities, it is almost superfluous to add.

The following remarks, extracted from "Peck's Guide to the West," may be read with advantage by all who intend to settle in the Western country :—

"Much disease, especially in the more recently settled parts of this country, is consequent to neglecting simple and comfortable precautionary means; sometimes this neglect is owing to misdirected industry, and at others to laziness or evil habits.

"To have a dry house, if it be a log one, with the openings between the logs well filled up, so that it may be kept warm in winter; to fill up all the holes in its vicinity which may contain stagnant water; to have a good clean spring or well, sufficient clothing, and a reasonable supply of provisions, should be the first object of a settler's attention. But frequently a little wet smoky cabin or hovel is erected, with the floor scarcely separated from the ground, and admitting the damp and unwholesome air. All hands that can work are impelled by the father's example, to labor beyond their strength, and more land is cleared and planted with corn than is well tended; for over-exertion, change in the manner of living, and the influence of other debilitating causes, bring sickness on at least a part of the family before the summer is half over.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Many persons, on moving into the back woods, who have been accustomed to the decencies of life, think it is little matter how they live, because no one sees them. Thus we have known a family of some opulence to reside for years in a cabin unfit for the abode of any human be-

ing, because they could not find time to build a house ; and whenever it rained hard the females were necessarily engaged in rolling the beds from one corner of the room to another, in order to save them from the water that poured in through the roof. This cabin was intended at first as only a very temporary residence, and was erected on the edge of a swamp, for the convenience of being near to a spring. How unreasonable must such people be if they expect health !”

#### **Mississippi and Missouri Railroad.**

On the 25th of October, 1847, Messrs. James Grant, Antoine Le Claire and G. C. R. Mitchell, of Davenport, formed a Company under the the name and style of “Mississippi and Missouri Railroad Company,” with a capital of two millions of dollars, for the purpose of constructing a Railroad from Davenport, on the Mississippi, *via* Iowa City and Fort Des Moines, to the Missouri River, at or near Council Bluffs. An application has or will be made to Congress by this Company for a grant of land, say each alternate section on both sides of the contemplated road. Should they succeed in obtaining it, there is little doubt that the road will be speedily constructed. The immense benefit which it will confer on our young and flourishing State can be seen by a glance at the route, as laid down on the accompanying Map. It will form a link in the great chain of roads connecting the Atlantic and Pacific, and will bring some of the richest farming country in Iowa in close connection with the Eastern States.

#### **Atlantic and Mississippi Valley Railroad.**

The necessity of an iron highway from the northern Atlantic cities, to the east bank of the Upper Mississippi

River, at some point between the fortieth and forty-third parallel of latitude, is generally felt and conceded.

The already heavy and rapidly growing population of northern and central Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, together with the people of central and southern Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as the entire population of Iowa, feel deeply the want of a continuous iron thoroughfare of trade and travel from the Atlantic to the mighty Valley of the West.

All seem to concede the necessity and importance of the avenue referred to. The agricultural resources of the Valley of the Upper Mississippi are boundless. In a few short years, the annual surplus of breadstuffs and provisions raised in the regions described, will yield an aggregate not now appreciated.

Preparations must therefore be speedily made to furnish a channel, open at all seasons of the year, by which the surplus products of the "Great Granary" may reach our Eastern markets. Numerous routes have been suggested for the main line of the projected thoroughfare. In selecting the line for the principal trunk, great care (in our humble judgment) should be observed, to traverse, as nearly as practicable, the CENTRE of our mighty western granary. The line proposed by the Buffalo and Mississippi Company, follows, we believe, the southern shore of Lake Erie, westward to Toledo, and thence westward through the line of counties of northern Indiana, to Michigan city. This route would answer, though another south of it would be decidedly preferable, for many reasons. Steuben county, the extreme north-eastern county of Indiana, is extremely broken, and consequently the grading

within the limits of said county would be expensive. Another and stronger objection is found in the great number of streams to bridge, by following the shore of the Lake to Toledo.

A much more eligible route can be found in starting the proposed Railroad at *Akron*, in Ohio, and thence following the water shed, or dividing ridge, westward, to Fort Wayne, in Indiana, and thence, *via* Goshen, South Bend, and Lapute, to Juliet, in Illinois, and thence, *via* Ottawa and Peru, on the Illinois River, to Rock Island, on the Mississippi, in latitude 41 deg. 30 min. north.

The Legislature of Illinois, at its last session, incorporated a Company to construct a Railroad from Rock Island, *via* Peru, to the Indiana line. The entire distance from Rock Island to Akron is remarkably level, following, as it does, mainly a ridge of land, dividing the waters of Lakes Erie and Michigan from those of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. This route we deem the best, for a variety of causes. In the first place, the course it would traverse is of great evenness of surface; it is unsurpassed in point of agricultural fertility; it is the centre of the wheat producing region of the Upper Mississippi; it would be less tortuous than the route recommended by the Buffalo and Mississippi Railroad Company, and following a dividing ridge, there would be fewer streams to bridge.

The maximum grade, or any portion of it, would not exceed ten feet per mile, while on the greater portion the grade would not reach eight feet per mile.

By commencing the eastern portion of the trunk at



Akron, Philadelphia could readily reach it from Pittsburg, and New York could also connect it at some point on the New York and Erie Road, between Orleans and Dunkirk. The Road from Boston to Albany could, with very trifling expense, be connected by means of a lateral Road, with the New York and Erie Road.

For nearly five months, in each year, either ice or low water operates as an obstacle to the shipment of breadstuffs and provisions on our western rivers and our great northern lakes. Even now, though the Upper Mississippi country is in its infancy, and its productions therefore limited, much difficulty is annually experienced in sending to the seaboard the surplus products of the northwest. Insurance on sailing vessels employed in the navigation of the upper lakes expires on or about the middle of November, nor are policies issued, we believe, on such vessels at an earlier period of the year than the middle of April. The navigation of Lakes Michigan and Huron, between November and April, is attended with great peril. With regard to the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, it is known that low water and ice prevail throughout a moiety of the year.

The price of freight descending those rivers, during the prevalence of low water, operates as an embargo. During the past fall, thirty cents per bushel was paid for the transit of wheat, from the Upper Rapids to St. Louis, a distance of three hundred and forty miles.

In the event of the construction of a suitable iron highway from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, by the routes indicated, the breadstuffs, provisions, and other products

of the great Valley, would reach the principal Atlantic cities in less than four days. Were the proposed Road now in operation, flour, to the extent of three millions of barrels, would be transported on it in the coming year. At the same rates as charged on the Reading Road, produce could be transported on the proposed highway, from the Mississippi River to New York, at less than \$14 per ton. On the Upper Mississippi River, a few days past, the highest prices paid for provisions and breadstuffs, from Keokuck to Galena, ranged as follows:

Wheat, best winter,	. 50 cents per bushel.
Corn,	. 15 cents do.
Pork, over 200 lbs.	. 2 cents per pound.
Beef,	. 2½ cents do.
Venison, haunches,	. 3 cents do.
Flour,	. \$3.50 to \$4.00 per barrel.

Could we open an iron avenue from the East to the West, our Atlantic markets would, at all seasons, be bountifully supplied with the surplus products of the Great West; and in a very few years after its completion, the aggregate tonnage transported on this great thoroughfare would reach the tonnage now annually transported on the Erie Canal.

Our fellow-citizens of the East should liberally contribute to further the construction of the proposed great highway.

# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

# STATE OF IOWA.

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## ARTICLE I.

### PREAMBLE AND BOUNDARIES.

WE, the People of the Territory of Iowa, grateful to the Supreme Being for the blessings hitherto enjoyed, and feeling our dependence on Him for a continuation of those blessings, do ordain and establish a free and independent government, by the name of the STATE OF IOWA, the boundaries whereof shall be as follows :

Beginning in the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi River, at a point due east of the middle of the mouth of the main channel of the Des Moines River ; thence up the middle of the main channel of the said Des Moines River, to a point on said river where the northern boundary line of the State of Missouri, as established by the Constitution of that State, adopted June 12th, 1820, crosses the said middle of the main channel of the said Des Moines River ; thence westwardly, along the said northern boundary line of the State of Missouri, as established at the time aforesaid, until an extension of said line intersect the middle of the main channel of the Missouri River ; thence up the middle of the main channel of the said Missouri River, to a point opposite the middle of the main channel of the Big Sioux River, according to Nicollett's map ; thence up the main channel of the said Big Sioux River, according to said map, until it is intersected

by the parallel of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes north latitude ; thence east, along said parallel of forty-three degrees and thirty minutes, until said parallel intersect the middle of the main channel of the Mississippi River ; thence down the middle of the main channel of said Mississippi River, to the place of beginning.

## ARTICLE II.

### BILL OF RIGHTS.

1. All men are, by nature, free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

2. All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for the protection, security, and benefit of the people ; and they have the right at all times to alter or reform the same, whenever the public good may require it.

3. The General Assembly shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, nor shall any person be compelled to attend any place of worship, pay tithes, taxes, or other rates, for building or repairing places of worship, or for the maintenance of any minister or ministry.

4. No religious test shall be required as a qualification for any office or public trust, and no person shall be deprived of any of his rights, privileges, or capacities, or disqualified from the performance of any of his public or private duties, or rendered incompetent to give evidence in any court of law or equity, in consequence of his opinions on the subject of religion.

5. Any citizen of this State, who may hereafter be engaged, either directly or indirectly, in a duel, either as principal or accessory, before the fact, shall forever be disqualified from holding any office under the constitution and laws of this State.

6. All laws of a general nature shall have a uniform operation.

7. Every person may speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press. In all prosecutions or indictments for libel, the truth may be given to the jury, and if it appear to the jury that the matter charged as libelous was true, and was published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, the party shall be acquitted.

8. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable seizures and searches, shall not be violated, and no warrant shall issue, but on probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, particularly describing the place to be searched, and the papers and things to be seized.

9. The right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate; but the General Assembly may authorize trial by jury of a less number than twelve men in inferior courts.

10. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have a right to a speedy trial, by an impartial jury, to be informed of the accusation against him, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for his own witnesses, and to have the assistance of counsel.

11. No person shall be held to answer for a criminal offence, unless on presentment or indictment by a grand jury, except in cases cognizable by justices of the peace, or arising in the army and navy, or in the militia when in actual service, in time of war, or public danger:

12. No person shall, after acquittal, be tried for the same offence. All persons shall, before conviction, be bailable, by sufficient sureties, except for capital offences, where the proof is evident, or the presumption great.

13. The writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless, in case of rebellion or invasion, the public safety requires it.

14. The military shall be subordinate to the civil power. No standing army shall be kept up by the State in time of peace, and in time of war no appropriation for a standing army shall be for a longer time than two years.

15. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, except in the manner prescribed by law.

16. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on evidence of two witnesses to the same overt act, or confession in open court.

17. Excessive bail shall not be required. Excessive fines shall not be imposed; and cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted.

18. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation.

19. No person shall be imprisoned for debt in any civil action on mesne, or final process, unless in cases of fraud; and no person shall be imprisoned for a military fine in time of peace.

20. The people have the right freely to assemble together to consult for the common good, to make known their opinions to their representatives, and to petition for redress of grievances.

21. No bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, shall ever be passed.

22. Foreigners who are, or who may hereafter become residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights, in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and descent of property, as native born citizens.

23. Neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude, unless for the punishment of crimes, shall ever be tolerated in this State.

24. This enumeration of rights shall not be construed to impair or deny others, retained by the people.

## ARTICLE III.

## RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE.

1. Every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of the State six months next preceding the election, and the county in which he claims his vote twenty days, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now or hereafter may be authorized by law.

2. Electors shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest on the days of election, during their attendance at such an election, going to and returning therefrom.

3. No elector shall be obliged to perform militia duty on the day of election, except in time of war, or public danger.

4. No person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States, shall be considered a resident of this State by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military or naval place or station within this State.

5. No idiot or insane person, or persons convicted of any infamous crime, shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector.

6. All elections by the people, shall be by ballot.

## ARTICLE IV.

## OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF POWER.

1. The powers of the government of Iowa shall be divided into three separate departments; the legislative, the executive, and judicial; and no person charged with the exercise of powers properly belonging to one of these departments, shall exercise any function appertaining to either of the others, except in cases hereinafter expressly directed or permitted.

## LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

1. The Legislative authority of this State shall be vested in a Senate and House of Representatives, which shall be designated the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,

and the style of their laws shall commence in the following manner: "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa."

2. The sessions of the General Assembly shall be biennial, and shall commence on the first Monday of December next ensuing the election of its members; unless the Governor of the State shall, in the interim, convene the General Assembly by proclamation.

3. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen every second year, by the qualified electors of their respective districts, on the first Monday in August, whose term of office shall continue two years from the day of the general election.

4. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years; be a free white male citizen of the United States, and have been an inhabitant of this State or Territory one year next preceding his election; and at the time of his election, have an actual residence of thirty days in the county or district he may be chosen to represent.

5. Senators shall be chosen for the term of four years, at the same time and place as Representatives; they shall be twenty-five years of age, and possess the qualifications of Representatives as to residence and citizenship.

6. The number of Senators shall not be less than one-third, nor more than one half of the Representative body, and at the first session of the General Assembly after this Constitution takes effect, the Senators shall be divided by lot, as equally as may be, into two classes; the seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, so that one half shall be chosen every two years.

7. When the number of Senators is increased, they shall be annexed by lot, to one of the two classes, so as to keep them as nearly equal in number as practicable.

8. Each house shall choose its own officers, and judge



of the qualification, election, and return of its own members. A contested election shall be determined in such manner as shall be directed by law.

9. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner, and under such penalties, as each house may provide.

10. Each house shall sit upon its own adjournments, keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same; determine its rules of proceedings, punish members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the consent of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offence, and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the General Assembly of a free and independent State.

11. Every member of the General Assembly shall have the liberty to dissent from, or protest against, any act or resolution which he may think injurious to the public, or an individual, and have the reasons of his dissent entered on the journals; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of any two members present, be entered on the journals.

12. Senators and Representatives, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of the General Assembly, and in going to and returning from the same.

13. When vacancies occur in either house, the Governor, or the person exercising the function of Governor, shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

14. The doors of each house shall be open, except on such occasion as, in the opinion of the house, may require secrecy.

15. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting.

16. Bills may originate in either house, except bills for revenue, which shall always originate in the House of

Representatives, and may be amended, altered or rejected by the other, and every bill having passed both houses, shall be signed by the Speaker and President of their respective houses.

17. Every bill which shall have passed the General Assembly shall, before it become a law, be presented to the Governor. If he approve, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the same upon the journal, and proceed to reconsider it ; if, after such reconsideration, it again pass both houses, by yeas and nays, by a majority of two-thirds of the members of each house present, it shall become a law, notwithstanding the Governor's objections. If any bill shall not be returned within three days after it shall have been presented to him, Sundays excepted, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the General Assembly, by adjournment, prevent such return.

18. An accurate statement of the receipts and expenditures of the public money shall be attached to, and published with the laws, at every regular session of the General Assembly.

19. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment, and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose, the Senators shall be upon oath or affirmation, and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

20. The Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, and Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office ; but judgment in such cases shall extend only to removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust, or profit under this State ; but the party convicted or acquitted, shall, nevertheless, be liable to indictment, trial, and punishment, according to law. All other civil officers shall be tried for misdemeanors in

office in such manner as the General Assembly may provide.

21. No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased, during such term, except such offices as may be filled by elections by the people.

22. No person holding any lucrative office under the United States, or this State, or any other power, shall be eligible to the General Assembly: Provided, That offices in the militia, to which there is attached no annual salary, or the office of justice of the peace, or post masters whose compensation does not exceed one hundred dollars per annum, shall not be deemed lucrative.

23. No person who may hereafter be a collector or holder of public moneys, shall have a seat in either house of the General Assembly, or be eligible to any office of trust or profit under this State, until he shall have accounted for and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be liable.

24. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law.

25. Each member of the General Assembly shall receive a compensation to be fixed by law, for his services, to be paid out of the treasury of the State. Such compensation shall not exceed two dollars per day, for the period of fifty days from the commencement of the session, and shall not exceed the sum of one dollar per day for the remainder of the session; when convened in extra session by the Governor, they shall receive such sum as shall be fixed for the first fifty days of the ordinary session. They shall also receive two dollars for every twenty miles they travel, in going to and returning from their place of meeting, on the most usual route: Provided, however, That the members of the first General Assembly under this Constitution shall receive two dollars per day for their services during the entire session.

26. Every law shall embrace but one object, which shall be embraced in the title.

27. No law of the General Assembly, of a public nature, shall take effect until the same shall be published and circulated in the several counties of this State, by authority. If the General Assembly shall deem any law of immediate importance, they may provide that the same shall take effect by publication in newspapers of the State.

28. No divorce shall be granted by the General Assembly.

29. No lottery shall be authorized by this State, nor shall the sale of lottery tickets be allowed.

30. Members of the General Assembly shall, before they enter upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: I do solemnly swear, or affirm, (as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of Senator, (or Representative, as the case may be,) according to the best of my ability. And members of the General Assembly are hereby empowered to administer to each other the said oath or affirmation.

31. Within one year after the ratification of this Constitution, and within every subsequent term of two years, for the term of eight years, an enumeration of all the white inhabitants of this State shall be made in such manner as shall be directed by law. The number of Senators and Representatives shall, at the first regular session of the General Assembly, after such enumeration, be fixed by law, and apportioned among the several counties, according to the number of white inhabitants in each, and shall also, at every subsequent regular session, apportion the House of Representatives, and every other regular session of the Senate, for eight years; and the House of Representatives shall never be less than twenty-six, nor greater than thirty-nine, until the number of white

inhabitants shall be one hundred and seventy-five thousand ; and after that event, at such ratio that the whole number of Representatives shall never be less than thirty-nine, nor exceeding seventy-two.

32. When a Congressional, Senatorial, or Representative district shall be composed of two or more counties, it shall not be entirely separated by any county belonging to another district ; and no county shall be divided in forming a Congressional, Senatorial, or Representative district.

33. In all elections by the General Assembly, the members thereof shall vote viva voce, and the votes shall be entered on the journal.

34. For the first ten years after the organization of the government, the annual salary of the Governor shall not exceed one thousand dollars ; Secretary of State, five hundred dollars ; Treasurer, four hundred dollars ; Auditor, six hundred dollars : Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, each one thousand dollars.

## ARTICLE V.

### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

1. The Supreme Executive power of this State shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Iowa.

2. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, at the time and place of voting for members of the General Assembly, and shall hold his office four years from the time of his installation, and until his successor shall be qualified.

3. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor, who has not been a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State two years next preceding the election, and attained the age of thirty years at the time of said election.

4. The returns of every election for Governor shall be sealed up and transmitted to the seat of Government, directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives,

who shall, during the first week of the session, open and publish them in presence of both Houses of the General Assembly. The person having the highest number of votes, shall be Governor ; but in case any two or more have an equal and the highest number of votes, the General Assembly shall, by joint ballot, choose one of said persons so having an equal and the highest number of votes, for Governor.

5. The Governor shall be Commander-in-Chief of the Militia, the Army and Navy of this State.

6. He shall transact all executive business, with the officers of Government, civil and military, and may require information in writing from the officers of the executive department upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices.

7. He shall see that the laws are faithfully executed.

8. When any office shall from any cause become vacant, and no mode is provided by the constitution and laws for filling such vacancy, the Governor shall have power to fill such vacancy, by granting a commission which shall expire at the end of the next session of the General Assembly, or at the next election by the people.

9. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the General Assembly by proclamation, and shall state to both Houses, when assembled, the purposes for which they shall have been convened.

10. He shall communicate by message to the General Assembly, at every session, the condition of the State, and recommend such matters as he shall deem expedient.

11. In case of disagreement between the two Houses, with respect to the time of adjournment, the Governor shall have power to adjourn the General Assembly to such time as he may think proper, provided it be not beyond the time fixed for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

12. No person shall, while holding any other office under the United States, or this State, execute the office of Governor, except as hereinafter expressly provided.

13. The Governor shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons, and commute punishments after conviction, except in cases of impeachment.

14. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the time for which he shall have been elected.

15. There shall be a seal of this State, which shall be kept by the Governor, and used by him officially, and shall be called the Great Seal of the State of Iowa.

16. All grants and commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the people of the State of Iowa, sealed with the great seal of this State, signed by the Governor and countersigned by the Secretary of State.

17. A Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts, and Treasurer, shall be elected by the qualified electors, who shall continue in office two years. The Secretary of State shall keep a fair register of all the official acts of the Governor, and shall, when required, lay the same, together with all papers, minutes, and vouchers, relative thereto, before either branch of the General Assembly, and shall perform such other duties as shall be assigned him by law.

18. In case of the impeachment of the Governor, his removal from office, death, resignation, or absence from the State, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the Secretary of State, until such disability shall cease, or the vacancy be filled.

19. If, during the vacancy of the office of Governor, the Secretary of State shall be impeached, displaced, resign, die, or be absent from the State, the powers and duties of the office of Governor shall devolve upon the President of the Senate ; and should a vacancy occur by impeachment, death, resignation, or absence from the State, of the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall act as Governor till the vacancy be filled.



## ARTICLE VI.

## JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

1. The Judicial power shall be vested in a Supreme Court, District Courts, and such inferior Courts, as the General Assembly may from time to time establish.

2. The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and two Associates, two of whom shall be a quorum to hold a Court.

3. The Judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by joint vote of both branches of the General Assembly, and shall hold their Courts at such time and place as the General Assembly may direct, and hold their offices for six years, and until their successors are elected and qualified, and shall be ineligible to any other office during the term for which they may be elected. The Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction only in all cases in chancery, and shall constitute a court for the correction of errors at law, under such restrictions as the General Assembly may by law prescribe. The Supreme Court shall have power to issue all writs and process necessary to do justice to parties, and exercise a supervisory control over all inferior judicial tribunals, and the Judges of the Supreme Court shall be conservators of the peace throughout the State.

4. The District Court shall consist of a Judge who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the district in which he resides, at the township election, and hold his office for the term of five years, and until his successor is duly elected and qualified, and shall be ineligible to any other office during the term for which he may be elected. The District Court shall be a court of law and equity, and have jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters arising in their respective districts, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law. The Judges of the District Court shall be conservators of the peace in their respective districts. The first session of the General Assembly shall divide the State into four districts, which may be increased as the exigencies require.



5. The qualified voters of each county shall, at the general election, elect one Prosecuting Attorney, and one Clerk of the District Court, who shall be residents therein, and who shall hold their several offices for the term of two years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

6. The style of all the process shall be "The State of Iowa," and all prosecutions shall be conducted in the name and by authority of the same.

## ARTICLE VII.

### MILITIA.

1. The militia of this State shall be composed of all able-bodied white male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except such as are, or may hereafter be, exempt by the laws of the United States, or of this State, and shall be armed, equipped, and trained as the General Assembly may provide by law.

2. No person or persons, conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, shall be compelled to do militia duty, in time of peace; provided that such person or persons shall pay an equivalent for such exemption in the same manner as other citizens.

3. All commissioned officers of the militia, (staff officers excepted,) shall be elected by the persons liable to perform military duty, and shall be commissioned by the Governor.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### STATE DEBTS.

1. The General Assembly shall not, in any manner, create any debt or debts, liability or liabilities, which shall singly, or in the aggregate, with any previous debts or liabilities, exceed the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, except in case of war, to repel invasion, or suppress insurrection, unless the same shall be authorized by some law for some single object or work to be distinctly specified therein, which law shall provide ways and

means, exclusive of loans, for the payment of the interest of such debt or liability, as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal of such debt or liability within twenty years from the time of contracting thereof, and shall be irrepealable until the principal and the interest thereon shall be paid and discharged ; but no such law shall take effect until, at a general election, it shall have been submitted to the people, and have received a majority of all the votes cast for and against it, at such election ; and all money raised by authority of such law, shall be applied only to the specific object therein stated, or to the payment of the debt thereby created, and such law shall be published in at least one newspaper in each judicial district, if one is published therein ; throughout the State, for three months preceding the election at which it is submitted to the people.

## ARTICLE IX.

### INCORPORATIONS.

1. No coporate body shall hereafter be created, renewed, or extended, with the privilege of making, issuing, or putting into circulation, any bill, check, ticket, certificate, promissory note, or other paper, or the paper of any bank, to circulate as money. The General Assembly of this State shall prohibit, by law, any person or persons, association, company, or corporation, from exercising the privileges of banking, or creating paper to circulate as money.

2. Corporations shall not be created in the State by special laws, except for political or municipal purposes ; but the General Assembly shall provide, by general laws, for the organization of all other corporations, except corporations with banking privileges, the creation of which is prohibited. The stockholders, shall be subject to such liabilities and restrictions as shall be provided by law. The State shall not, directly or indirectly, become a stockholder in any corporation.

## ARTICLE X.

## EDUCATION AND SCHOOL LANDS.

1. The General Assembly shall provide for the election, by the people, of a Superintendent of Public Instruction, who shall hold his office for three years, and whose duties shall be prescribed by law, and who shall receive such compensation as the General Assembly may direct.

2. The General Assembly shall encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral and agricultural improvement. The proceeds of all lands that have been, or hereafter may be granted by the United States to this State, for the purpose of schools, which shall hereafter be sold or disposed of, and the five hundred thousand acres of land granted to the new States, under an Act of Congress, distributing the proceeds of the public lands among the several States of the Union, approved A. D. 1841, and all estates of deceased persons, who may have died without leaving a will or heir; and also such per cent. as may be granted by Congress on the sale of lands in this State, shall be and remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which, together with all the rents of the unsold lands, and such other means as the General Assembly may provide, shall be inviolably appropriated to the support of common schools throughout the State.

3. The General Assembly shall provide for a system of common schools, by which a school shall be kept up and supported in each school district, at least three months in every year; and any school district neglecting to keep up and support such a school, may be deprived of its proportion of the interest of the public fund during such neglect.

4. The money which shall be paid by persons as an equivalent for exemption from military duty, and the clear proceeds of all fines collected in the several counties for any breach of the penal laws, shall be exclusively applied, in the several counties in which such money is paid or fine collected, among the several school districts of said

counties, in proportion to the number of inhabitants in such districts, to the support of common schools, or the establishment of libraries, as the General Assembly shall, from time to time, provide by law.

5. The General Assembly shall take measures for the protection, improvement, or other disposition of such lands as have been, or may hereafter be reserved or granted by the United States, or any person or persons, to the State for the use of a University; and the funds accruing from the rents or sale of such lands, or from any other source, for the purpose aforesaid, shall be and remain a permanent fund, the interest of which shall be applied to the support of said University, with such branches as the public convenience may hereafter demand for the promotion of literature, the arts, and sciences, as may be authorized by the terms of such grant. And it shall be the duty of the General Assembly, as soon as may be, to provide effectual means for the improvement and permanent security of the funds of said University.

## ARTICLE XI.

### AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION.

1. If at any time the General Assembly shall think it necessary to revise or amend this Constitution, they shall provide by law for a vote of the people for or against a Convention, at the next ensuing election for members of the General Assembly; in case a majority of the people vote in favour of a Convention, said General Assembly shall provide for an election of Delegates to a Convention, to be held within six months after the vote of the people in favor thereof.

## ARTICLE XII.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

1. The jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace shall extend to all civil cases, (except cases in Chancery, and cases where the question of title to any real estate may arise,) where the amount in controversy does not exceed

one hundred dollars, and by the consent of parties may be extended to any amount not exceeding five hundred dollars.

2. No new county shall be laid off hereafter, nor old county reduced, to less contents than four hundred and thirty-two square miles.

3. The General Assembly shall not locate any of the public lands, which have been or may be granted by Congress to this State, and the location of which may be given to the General Assembly, upon lands actually settled, without the consent of the occupant. The extent of the claim of such occupant so exempted, shall not exceed three hundred and twenty acres.

## ARTICLE XIII.

### SCHEDULE.

1. That no inconvenience may arise from the change of a Territorial government to a permanent State government, it is declared that all writs, actions, prosecutions, contracts, claims, and rights, shall continue as if no change had taken place in this government ; and all process which may, before the organization of the judicial department under this Constitution, be issued under the authority of the Territory of Iowa, shall be as valid as if issued in the name of the State.

2. All the laws now in force in this Territory, which are not repugnant to this Constitution, shall remain in force until they expire by their own limitations, or be altered or repealed by the General Assembly of this State.

3. All fines, penalties, and forfeitures, accruing to the Territory of Iowa, shall accrue to the use of the State.

4. All recognizances heretofore taken, or which may hereafter be taken, before the organization of the judicial department under this Constitution, shall remain valid, and shall pass to and may be prosecuted in the name of the State. And all bonds executed to the Governor of this Territory, or to any other officer in his official capa-

city, shall pass over to the Governor of this State, or other proper State authority, and to their successors in office, for the uses therein respectively expressed, and may be sued for and recovered accordingly. All criminal prosecutions and penal actions which have arisen, or may arise, before the organization of the judicial department, under this Constitution, and which shall then be pending, may be prosecuted to judgment and execution in the name of the State.

5. All officers, civil and military, now holding their offices and appointments in this Territory, shall continue to hold and execute their respective offices and appointments until superceded under this Constitution.

6. The first general election, under this Constitution, shall be held at such time as the Governor of the Territory, by proclamation, may appoint, within three months after its adoption, for the election of a Governor, two Representatives in the Congress of the United States, (unless Congress shall provide for the election of one Representative,) members of the General Assembly, and one Auditor, Treasurer, and Secretary of State. Said election shall be conducted in accordance with the existing election laws of this Territory, and said Governor, Representatives in the Congress of the United States, Auditor, Treasurer, and Secretary of State, duly elected at said election, shall continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices for the time prescribed by this Constitution, and until their successors are elected and qualified. The returns of said election shall be made in conformity to the existing laws of this Territory.

7. Until the first enumeration of the inhabitants of this State, as directed by this Constitution, the following shall be the apportionment of the General Assembly :

The county of Lee shall be entitled to two Senators, and five Representatives; the county of Van Buren, two Senators and four Representatives; the counties of Davis and Appanoose, one Senator and one Representative, jointly; the counties of Wapello and Monroe, one Senator, jointly,

and one Representative, each; the counties of Marion, Polk, Dallas, and Jasper, one Senator and two Representatives, jointly; the county of Des Moines, two Senators and four Representatives; the county of Henry, one Senator and three Representatives; the counties of Louisa and Washington, one Senator, jointly, and one Representative, each; the counties of Keokuk and Mahaska, one Senator, jointly, and one Representative, each; the counties of Muscatine, Johnson, and Iowa, one Senator and one Representative, jointly; and Muscatine one Representative, and Johnson and Iowa one Representative, jointly; the counties of Scott and Clinton, one Senator, jointly, and one Representative, each; the counties of Cedar, Linn and Benton, one Senator, jointly; the county of Cedar one Representative, and the counties of Linn and Benton, one Representative, jointly; the counties of Jackson and Jones, one Senator and two Representatives; the counties of Dubuque, Delaware, Clayton, Fayette, Buchanan, and Black Hawk, two Senators and two Representatives, jointly; and any country attached to any county for judicial purposes, shall, unless otherwise provided for, be considered as forming part of such county for election purposes.

8. The first meeting of the General Assembly, under this Constitution, shall be at such time as the Governor of the Territory may, by proclamation, appoint, within four months after its ratification by the people, at Iowa City, in Johnson county, which place shall be the seat of Government of the State of Iowa, until removed by law.

Done in Convention, at Iowa City, this 18th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States the seventieth.

In Testimony Whereof, We have hereunto subscribed our names:

ENOS LOWE, President.

*Attest*, WM. THOMPSON, Sec.

Thomas Dibble, Erastus Hoskin, David Galland, Suli-



and S. Ross, Shepherd Leffler, Curtis Bates, Wm. G. Coop, John Ronalds, Samuel A. Bissell, Socrates H. Tryon, Wareham G. Clark, William Hubble, John J. Selman, George Berry, John Conrey, Josiah Kent, Joseph H. Hedrick, Sylvester G. Matson, S. B. Shelledy, James Grant, George Hobson, H. P. Haun, Stewart Goodrell, Sanford Harned, David Olmstead, G. W. Bowie, Alvin Saunders, William Steele, T. McCraney, F. K. O'Ferrall, J. Scott Richman.



# STATE OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1848.

	Salary.
ANSEL BRIGGS,.....of Jackson Co.,.....	<i>Governor</i> (term expires December, 1850,).....\$1,000
Elisha Cutler,.....of Van Buren Co.,.....	<i>Secretary of State</i> ,.....500
Joseph T. Fales,.....of Linn Co.,.....	<i>Auditor of Public Accounts</i> ,.....600
Morgan Reno,.....of Johnson Co.,.....	<i>Treasurer</i> ,.....400
James Harlan,.....do.....	<i>Superintendent of Public Instruction</i> ,.....1,200
Lemuel B. Patterson,.....do.....	<i>Librarian</i> ,.....150
Thomas Baker,.....of Polk Co.,.....	<i>President of the Senate</i> ,.....\$4 a day
Jesse B. Brown,.....of Lee Co.,.....	<i>Speaker of the House of Representatives</i> , 4 "
John B. Russell,.....of Muscatine Co.,.....	<i>Secretary of the Senate</i> ,.....2 "
Silas A. Hudson,.....of Des Moines Co.,.....	<i>Chief Clerk of the H. of Representatives</i> , 2 "

## Board of Public Works.

H. W. Semple, *President*,

Charles Corkery, *Treasurer*,

Paul Brattan, *Secretary*.

## Judiciary.

### Supreme Court.

Joseph Williams,.....of Muscatine Co.,.....	<i>Chief Justice</i> ,.....\$1,000
T. S. Wilson,.....of Dubuque Co.,.....	<i>Associate Justice</i> ,.....1,000
J. F. Kinney,.....of Lee Co.,.....do.....	.....1,000
G. S. Hampton,.....of Johnson Co.,.....	<i>Clerk</i> ,.....Fees.
Eastin Morris,.....do.....	<i>Reporter</i> ,.....

### District Courts.

George H. Williams,.....of Lee Co.,.....	<i>Judge of 1st Circuit</i> ,.....\$1,000
James Grant,.....of Scott Co.,.....do.....	2d do.....1,000
J. P. Carleton,.....of Johnson Co.,.....do.....	3d do.....1,000
Cyrus Olney,.....of Jefferson Co.,.....do.....	4th do.....1,000

# UNITED STATES OFFICERS.

## *United States District Court.*

	Salary.
John J. Dyer,.....	Judge,.....
Isaac M. Preston,.....	District Attorney,.....\$200 and fees.
Gideon S. Bailey,.....	Marshall,.....\$200 and fees.

## *Land Officers.*

George W. Jones,.....	Surveyor General, for Iowa and Wisconsin.	Office at Dubuque.
George McHenry,.....	Receiver, }	
Warner Lewis, .....	Register, }	..... Dubuque.
Enos Lowe,.....	Receiver, }	..... Iowa City.
Charles Meally, .....	Register, }	
W. P. Van Antwerp, .....	Receiver, }	..... Fairfield.
Bernhart Henn,.....	Register, }	

# DISTANCES

## ON THE

# OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS,

## FROM PITTSBURGH

## TO THE

# FALLS OF ST. ANTHONY.



PITTSBURGH	<i>miles.</i>	To	
To Economy,.....	19	Pomeroy,.....	13
Beaver,...	10½	Pt. Pleasant,.....	17
Georgetown,.....	15	Gallipolis,.....	4
Liverpool,.....	3½	Guyandotte,.....	38
Wellsville,.....	4	Burlington,.....	8
Steubenville,.....	17	Portsmouth,.....	43
Wellsburgh,.....	7	Vanceburg,.....	20
Warrenton,.....	7	Maysville,.....	30
Wheeling,.....	9	Ripley,.....	9
Sistersville,.....	55	Augusta,.....	9
Newport,.....	12	New Richmond,....	21½
Marietta,.....	18	Cincinnati,.....	22
Vienna,.....	6	North Bend,.....	16
Parkersburg,.....	6½	Lawrenceburg,.....	6
Troy,.....	13	Aurora,.....	5
Letart's Rapids,....	37½	Rising Sun,.....	10
		Patriot,.....	13

To Warsaw,.....9	To Jefferson Barracks,..29
Vevay and Ghent,..10	St. Louis,.....10
Carrolton,.....8	Missouri River,....20
Madison,.....12	Alton,.....5
Utica, .....39	Illinois River,.....17
Jeffersonville,.....9	Clarksville, .....58
Louisville,.....1	Louisiana,.....12
Portland and	Hannibal,.....30
New Albany,.....3	Quincy,.....20
Salt River,.....18	Warsaw,....40
Brandenburg,.....18	Keokuk, .....4
Mauksport,.....3	Montrose and
Leavenworth,.....17	Nauvoo,..12
Rome,.....40	Ft. Madison,.....9
Hawsville,.....25	Burlington,.....22
Troy,.....6	Oquawka,.....18
Owensboro,.....28	New Boston,.....25
Green River, .....28 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bloomington,.....27
Evansville,.....8 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rockingham,.....27
Hendersonville,....11	Rock Island and
Mt. Vernon,.....26 $\frac{1}{2}$	Davenport,.....5
Wabash River,.....21	Parkhurst,.....20
Shawneetown,.....9	Camanche,.....12
Cave in Rock,....25	Lyons,.....9
Golconda,.....30	Charleston,.....15
Smithland,.....16	Savannah,.....2
Paducah,.....12	Bellevue,.....19
Cairo,.....50	Dubuque,.....25
	Peru,.....8
UP THE MISSISSIPPI.	Cassville,.....25
<i>Mouth of the Ohio</i>	Prairie La Porte,....8
To Cape Girardeau,...41	Wisconsin River,...17
Grand Tower, .....27	Prairie du Chien,....4
Chester,.....30	St Peter's River and
St. Genevieve,.....14 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ft. Snelling,....241
Herculaneum,.....30 $\frac{1}{2}$	Falls of St. Anthony,.7

EBENEZER COOK,

GEORGE B. SARGENT.

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# COOK & SARGENT,

## LAND AGENTS,

**Davenport, Scott County, Iowa.**

We take this method of informing those who may be interested in lands in Iowa, that we are permanently established in the Agency business, and expect to devote our time to it. We have made extensive arrangements for the purpose of being able, at the shortest notice, to furnish any information required in relation to the situation and value of any particular tract of land, and for the prompt investigation of the title. It is highly important to all non-resident land owners that they have an agent here acquainted with the laws of the State, to give personal attention to the assessment and payment of taxes, prevent trespasses, &c., &c. Many valuable tracts of land have been lost to the owner for the want of proper attention in these respects.

There is probably no better investment to be made than in Iowa lands, *properly selected*; but such selections can only be made by those who are well acquainted with the country and the quality of the soil, and who having watched the growth and gradual settlement of the State, are thereby able to judge of the comparative

advantages of particular portions, with reference to future improvements.

Much of the best land in Iowa is not yet in market, and there are now in almost all of the settled parts of the State valuable tracts which still belong to the public domain. A peculiarly favorable opportunity for investment is now presented by the purchase of War Warrants for bounty lands, issued under the Act of 1836.

Having been residents of the State from its first settlement, and one of us having been in the service of the United States, engaged in making surveys for the last five years, we flatter ourselves that we have acquired the requisite information to enable us to make such selections of land as cannot fail to pay the purchaser a satisfactory profit.

To such as may desire to emigrate from the Eastern States, we say that there is no country that hold out greater inducements than Iowa.

We will, at all times, with pleasure, furnish to emigrants any information or aid in our power, and we feel assured that we can render them valuable assistance both before and after their arrival.

COOK & SARGENT.

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EBENEZER COOK,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
DAVENPORT, IOWA,









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